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NEWS for IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Court Implements Changes as a Result of California's Budget Crisis

Riverside, **CA** - The current budget situation coupled with the Governor's proposed budget cuts for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 has required Riverside County Superior Court to convert the Corona, Moreno Valley and Palm Springs Court Facilities into work-processing centers, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2003. These centers will become responsible for a tremendous amount of the court's data entry, telephonic public assistance, and file management efforts; and, they will enable the court to continue to process cases and documents in a timely fashion, minimizing the delay of justice. This change will remove the availability of public services at the Corona, Moreno Valley, and Palm Springs Courts, and it will remain in effect until further notice.

All state agencies and the judicial branch have experienced serious budget cuts resulting from California's severe budget deficit. Locally, the state-imposed cuts in funding have forced the court to make dramatic changes in order to keep mission-critical functions operating. The most recent decision to convert the Corona, Moreno Valley, and Palm Springs Court Facilities into work-processing centers will enable the court to maximize its diminishing fiscal resources.

The court commits to continuing to identify cost-saving measures to limit the impact of the state's severe financial crisis and it looks to the public and its fellow justice agencies for support as it strives to find effective solutions in these challenging times.